

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:156

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016

Air Quality

Rao (Avnithi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether air quality in metropolitan cities including Mumbai has deteriorated in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, city-wise and the reaction of the Government thereto; and;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to mitigate air pollution and improve air quality in the metropolitan cities of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 156 due for reply on 08.03.2016 regarding "Air Quality" by SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI), Hon'ble Member of Parliament

(a) & (b) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are monitoring ambient air quality across the country under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Three air pollutants viz., Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Matter size equal to or less than 10 micron (PM₁₀), are monitored at all the 612 operating monitoring stations located in 254 cities/towns in 29 states and 5 union territories across the country. The ambient air quality data of the million plus cities including Mumbai is annexed.

Out of the 46 million plus cities, ambient air quality data collected during 2015 available for 41 cities indicate that the values of SO₂ are within the NAAQS of 50 Åµg/m³ (annual standard). The value of NO₂ in 9 cities (namely Delhi, Faridabad, Howrah, Kalyan Dombivali, Kolkata, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Pune, Navi Mumbai and Thane) exceeded the NAAQS of 40 Åµg/m³ (annual standard); while the value of PM₁₀, in 38 cities do not comply with the NAAQS of 60 Åµg/m³ (annual standard). The PM₁₀ value in 3 cities (namely Chennai, Coimbatore and Vishakhapatnam) complies with the National Standard of 60 Åµg/m³ (annual standard). The analysis of three year data also revealed that SO₂ & NO₂ levels at Mumbai are within the NAAQS. However, the level of PM₁₀ exceeds the NAAQS of 60 Åµg/m³ (annual standard) and shows decreasing trend in 2014 and 2015 compared to 2013.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to mitigate air pollution in metropolitan cities including Mumbai in the country include the following:-

- (i) Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards envisaging 12 pollutants;
- (ii) Formulation of environmental regulations / statutes;
- (iii) Setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality;
- (iv) Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel, ethanol blend etc. replacing petrol and diesel;
- (v) Promotion of cleaner production processes;

Taking note of the gravity of Air Pollution, the Government has taken some more measures which include:

- (i) Launched National Air Quality index by the Prime Minister in April, 2015 starting with 14 cities and now extended to 22 cities;
- (ii) Implementation of Bharat Stage IV (BS-IV) norms in 63 selected cities and universalization of BS-IV by 2017;
- (iii) Decision taken to leapfrog directly from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards by 1st April, 2020;
- (iv) Comprehensive review of all Waste Management Rules including Municipal Solid Waste, Plastic Waste, Hazardous Waste, Bio-medical Waste and Electronic Waste.
- (v) Ban on burning of leaves, biomass, municipal solid waste;
- (vi) Promotion of public transport network of metro, buses, e-rickshaws and promotion of car pooling, Pollution Under Control, lane discipline, vehicle maintenance;
- (vii) Revision of existing environmental standards and formulation of new standards for prevention and control of pollution from industries.
- (viii) Regular co-ordination meetings at official and ministerial level with Delhi and other State Governments within the NCR.
- (ix) Issuance of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and under Section 18(1)(b) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- (x) Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices by major industries.
